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A Dissertation
on
Hepatitis

by . Gregory paper Mar. 11. 1857

confused and erroneous
form of this disease is

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I have selected for this essay Hepatitis
or Inflammation of the Liver. It is a subject to
which Physicians have devoted much attention,
and on the cause and cure of which, much ingeni-
ous speculation has been offered.

Inflammation of the Liver is usu-
ally divided by practical writers into the Acute
and Chronic. There appears to be a great diversity
of opinion as respects the occurrence of one or the
other form of this disease. We find one writer
almost denying the existence of a chronic In-
flammation of the Liver while another & no
less respectably informs us it is of most fre-
quent occurrence.

This division of the disease appears
to be necessary for our successful treatment of
it for unless we keep it in view together with
many intermediate grades, our ideas of the
nature of this affection, and the mode of
treatment, must be confused and erroneous.

The Acute form of this disease is

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said to be an affection of the membranous parts of the Liver and the chronic of the Parenchymatous. The glandular substance of the Liver is possessed of but little sensibility while the vascular and ligamentous parts are acutely sensible when diseased, consequently in the Acute Hepatitis there is great pain, Pyrexia, and a frequent ^{large} pulse. While in the chronic affections of the Liver there is but little pain or sensation of the part, neither does the Arterial system appear to sympathize with it, as the pulse is seldom affected so that it is frequently far advanced in its progress before it is perceived; again cases not unfrequently occur which perhaps are of a mixed form where the pulse is constantly hard and sometimes increased considerably in frequency.

All acute diseases of the Liver are not attended with great pain, for they are often rapid in their progress and suppuration far advanced before they cause much alarm. But in other cases where the progress is not much more rapid, the pain is extremely acute.

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This difference appears to depend altogether on the seat of the affection, When the ligaments are affected the pain is great but when the extreme parts of the lobes are the seat of the disease the pain is the least

Diseases of this viscus are most common in very warm climates after rainy seasons. In this country however those of a bilious predisposition and who are intemperate, are liable to Hepatic complaints. Also those who reside in low marshy situations during wet weather especially if they are inactive and labour under anxiety of mind. That diseases of the Liver are of frequent occurrence in this country, cannot be doubted, though frequently they may continue for a length of time without being suspected, the patient believing his disease to be seated in the stomach &c

These affections of the Liver are sometimes so obscure that it is extremely difficult to distinguish them. They advance slowly & almost

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imperceptibly, producing but little uneasiness and at first are disregarded by the patient.

Many remote causes of Hepatitis may be enumerated. First, External violence, from contusions or falls especially those that injure the cranium. Secondly, Exposure to the heat of the day, or exposure to the cool night air after the heat of the day. Thirdly, the frequent use of spirituous liquors and intemperance of all kinds. Fourthly, Miasmata. Fifthly, violent bodily labour or exercise. Sixthly, Intermittent or Remittent Fevers. Seventhly, Irritating substances in the Stomach. The Liver and the Stomach appear to sympathize very generally, with one another through the medium of the Biliary ducts & Intestines as we may observe, from the exhibition of an emetic, or the next day after a debauch, there appears to be a redundancy and frequently a vomiting of Bile, Next to the effects of heat on the Liver the use of Spirituous liquors produce the most pernicious consequences

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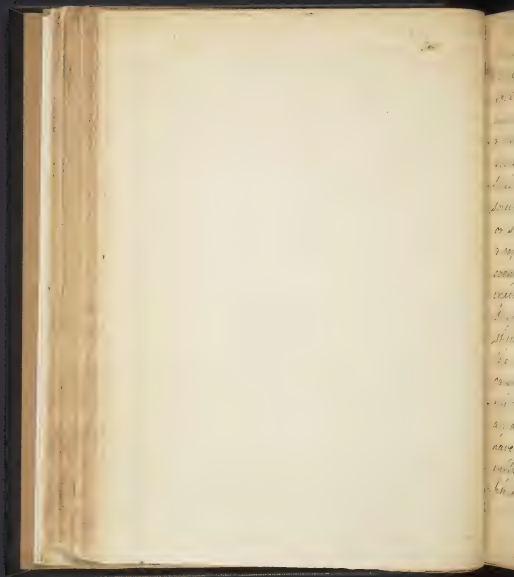
For in all countries the symptoms of
them, to except are very frequently mixed
in this part.

This affection so varies in its nature
and the causes that produce it, must re-
quire very different modes of treatment.
But as a view of all the different grades of
this disease would require more space, than
may be awarded to an inaugural essay, I
shall only notice the Acute form of Hepatitis.

It mostly commences with a sense
of chillings or shivering which in many
cases is very slight and scarcely notice-
d by the patient, followed by an increase
of heat and an increased frequency of pulse
with pain in the right Hypochondrium
extending along the margin of the ribs
and up to the shoulder sometimes ques-
ting the back, Scapula and sometimes the
pain is sometimes dull, sometimes sharp,
increased by pressure on the sore part.

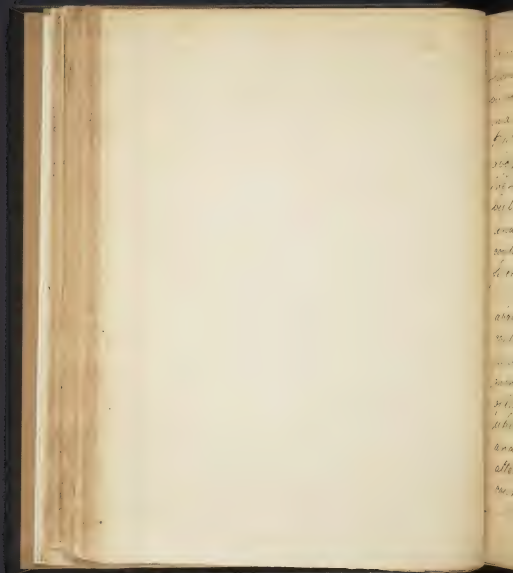


the liver etc. sometimes attended with
small benumbing maculae blue or grey
the skin light & bright and great heat the
urine a general sound with a white head,
sometimes yellowish. Food water & sleep are
occasional disorders the same is present in
some quantities and frequently tired with
the voice & action. There is a strong
tend to vomit from that sometimes in
vomit. Jaundice is a frequent occurrence when
the liver enlarges for several days and is
mentioned in some writers as a constant symp-
tom, but it is not a necessary consequence as it
depends on the seat of the inflammation.
If the inflammation is seated on the convex
part of the liver and does not extend to the
duct the yellow colour of the skin - &c. as
will not take place since the bile is the
told into the duodenum with impunity when
for only there is an absence of it and sometimes
however nausea & vomiting occurs to a high degree.



in the lungs. The disease is usually
and is frequently accompanied by a
sore and the cough is the usual one. In
early stages the disease is usually accompanied by
discharged sputum. In a large number of
cases of pneumonia the disease is accompanied by
solution in the viscera of the lungs. In some
or several, or an ulceration of the lungs, or a
refractory sediment was contributed to the
event. In the other cases the disease is
inflammation in some extent, or not.

Pneumonia should always be attempted. In
should the disease proceed on to death, then
the recovery must be much hastened. If
can is still not altogether cured, the
it may point colorfully, and a few days
an aching through the integuments, and
have sinistral adhesions in many of the
inflammation, either with the stomach, or
thorax or intestines and the matter may



The same will be observed in the
dyspnoea or shortness of breath, and the
cough, and the wheezing, and the
in a short time it is and is a
But when it has been long
the lungs, the patient is generally
by the matter bursting, and
and reducing suppuration, or
continued coughing, and even
the same under the disease.

If the symptoms of fever and
above with the more the more
coughing if the coughing is
suppuration well probably, but
more of suppuration is denoted
if it has while the other
which is succeeded by a sensation
and appears with a coughing
attended with frequent
maintenance and an accession of fever



coming with profuse night sweats.

"Dietary" may be indicated for "Pneumonia"
 "Pneumonia" is a disease of the lungs, and is
 caused by the lungs and stomach as well as
 the lungs and stomach. The stomach is
 the source of the disease, and the lungs are
 the source of the disease. But we may say
 nothing about it. It is a disease of the
 lungs and stomach, and the lungs are
 the source of the disease.

D Pemberton in his lecture on the
viscera has received some observations by which
we may be directed in distinguishing the fluid
from these operations. First by observing that
in Hæmaturia a granular excretion appears, be-
cause coarse although it increases in time.
Secondly that the haem is encased upon
the surface under the margin of the vis. which
would not be the case, if the inflammation
was within the crest: and thirdly, if the
sough is found to have succeeded the ^{not} pain m^o
have been caus'd with or preceded it several days
in Pleurisy. Also in Pleurisy the haem is much





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the patient is young and strong - given a little
more and is not done with the world yet
conforms with the law as that must be done
upon the whole the case is in the patient's
hands, if the demand is made, effort must be
made.

It is a very simple and easy remedy, and is used in the system at large, not only as a first or moderate, but as a second or third, thus assisting destination in its progress by uniting the object of the bile into the duodenum, and also by the fluid it contains, an irritating matter that may be lodged in the intestines, and is in fact a substitute for the natural bile. It is a very simple and easy remedy, and is used in the system at large, not only as a first or moderate, but as a second or third, thus assisting destination in its progress by uniting the object of the bile into the duodenum, and also by the fluid it contains, an irritating matter that may be lodged in the intestines, and is in fact a substitute for the natural bile.

[Faint handwritten notes, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]

Colonel Drury ascribes its superiority
to its peculiar property of absorbing the dust
in the air and he considers its relation in
the lungs as often superior to the mucus
secretion. His idea is that the air is
Colonel every 4 or 5 hours according to the
quantity of the secretions. To keep the air
may be secured by other means without
much relief and even an increase of
tension with little if any advantage. It
is not retained some time in the lungs.
The particular Beneficial effects are due to
its absorbing or removing that irritating
construction of the duct which causes the
life to be retained in a duct of the
In say the other medicines which cathartics
if they are much of either are in the means of
coughing and when taken its secretions
should be the best to give it a
laxing power on the lungs by combining
it with Opium and Antimony.



[illegible]

As soon as the discharge is complete, and
after the removal of the last and smallest
ring, the discharge should be repeated until the
new discharge is complete. It is to be kept in
mind that during the discharge, the water of
a basin should not be removed, to prevent the
disturbance of the discharge, and the

Est. that it is not possible to find a
single lot of the same material in the same lot of
the same lot of the same material and the
same is a common case in the same lot of
any agitation or movement of the same lot.

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of antimonials should be cautiously managed for fear they promote vomiting a circumstance we should guard against, unless in some particular cases where we have evidences of the presence of pus, and we may suppose the agitation of the stomach by emesis will be serviceable in promoting its evacuation.

The patient should be supported by a light absteritious diet at the same time avoiding all fermented or spirituous liquors, By these measures if steadily pursued in the early part of the disease we may generally succeed in abating the inflammation and preventing the formation of pus the principal object to be attained.

When by an early and judicious use of these antiphlogistic measures there is an abatement in the pain and fever it may be necessary and will be safe to secure the patient from any chronic obstruction, to resort to the use of Mercury —

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And its introduction into the system through
the skin appears to be the preferable mode
this may be done by rubbing on the side every
night $\frac{3}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ of Ungt Mercurio, if the pain
and fever be reproduced by it, it should
be immediately layed aside. But if the
patient be relieved from any remaining
pain dulness or weight of the side it will
be advisable to continue its use for several
days or untill it causes a tenderness of the
mouth

Chilodactylus

From the station house

For which I am indebted to

the kindness of Mr. J. H. Brown